THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) to (d) : the enquiries made with Maruti Udyog Limited, M/s. General Motors India Limited, M/s. Ford Motors India Limited and M/s. TELCO indicate that prices of their cars have not been increased following the Budget. The prices of cars are not regulated and are fixed by the manufacturers from time to time on commercial considerations.

PSUs in the Country

4476. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of PSUs functioning in the country as on-date; and

(b) the total capital investment made therein by the end of March, 2000 along with the amount on which interest has been made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) and (b) As on 31.3.1999, till which period the information is available, there were 240 PSUs (including 5 under construction) functioning in the country. The total investment made in these PSUs on that date was Rs. 230140 crores out of which Rs. 149779 crores were long term loans on which interest is being paid.

Guidelines for Navratna PSUs

4477. SHRI ABANI ROY : Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have announced guidelines for the Board of Navratna PSUs - wishing to enter into a technology joint ventures/strategic alliance with other firms,

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of PSUs which propose to have joint ventures with foreign/ domestic partners and sent their proposal to Government for clearance; and

(d) to what extent PSUs are likely to be benefited by such ventures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.